

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 17 and 20 have been amended. Claims 2, 7, 9, 14, 16 and 21 have been canceled.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 2-3, 7, 9-10, 14, 16, 17 and 21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has now amended independent claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 15 and 20 to include the features of dependent claims 2, 7, 9, 14, 16 and 21, respectively, which have been canceled.


Independent claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 15 and 20 thus represent claims 2, 7, 9, 14, 16 and 21 rewritten in independent form. Independent claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 15 and 20 are thus allowable. Likewise, the other remaining claims in the application, i.e., claims 3-5, 10-12 and 17-19 depend from claims 1, 9 and 16, respectively, and thus are also believed to be allowable.

All the claims remaining in the application are, therefore, allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims and passage of same and this application to issue is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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